

Poodle skirts and rock-n-roll! The 1950s were a classic and fun time in American history. World War II had come to an end and the Civil Air Patrol had shifted its focus from

war-time efforts to emergency services, aerospace education and cadet programs. During this era, a young lawyer from Ohio decided to join CAP, and his programs and initiatives still resonate today.

Brig. Gen. Lyle Castle, 84, served as chairman of the CAP National Board from 1965-'68. Castle, along with Gens. Samuel DuPont and William Patterson, are credited with introducing a modified cadet program, which is essentially the same program that exists today.

"They largely shepherded the new cadet program into being and nurtured it into the program it is today," says former CAP National Commander (1993-'96) Brig. Gen. Richard L. Anderson.

In addition to his contributions to cadet programs, Castle, who is now retired and living in Florida, is also particularly proud of another program he helped institute while serving as chairman — a new aircraft purchase program. Previously, CAP flew leftover Air Force planes or member-owned aircraft to carry out their missions. Under the new program, the wings were responsible for fundraising to purchase a better fleet of planes — Piper Cherokees.

Castle, a decorated war veteran and former POW, served under Gen. Douglas MacArthur during World War II. Castle also reached the pinnacle of success in his personal career while serving as a judge in the state of Ohio for more than 20 years. Prior to becoming national commander, Castle served as the Ohio Wing's director of operations.

Castle said he found success in each endeavor by implementing the same set of core values.

"We paid attention to morals,

ethics and a code of conduct as our core values, and our leadership set the example," he said in a recent interview. ▲



Brig. Gen. Lyle Castle served as national commander from 1965-'68. Photo is circa 1965.

Castle's Core Values

The Legacy of CAP's Commander with the Oldest Term of Service

By Kimberly Barnhart

CAP's National Commanders

CAP National Board Chairmen/ National Commanders

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1948 – 1959 | Gen. Carl A. Spaatz, USAF (Ret.) |
| 1959 – 1960 | Brig. Gen. D. Harold Byrd, CAP |
| 1960 – 1962 | Brig. Gen. William C. Whelen, CAP |
| 1962 – 1965 | Brig. Gen. Paul W. Turner, CAP |
| 1965 – 1968 | Brig. Gen. Lyle W. Castle, CAP |
| 1968 – 1970 | Brig. Gen. F. Ward Reilly, CAP |
| 1970 – 1973 | Brig. Gen. S. H. DuPont Jr., CAP |
| 1973 – 1976 | Brig. Gen. William M. Patterson, CAP |
| 1976 – 1979 | Brig. Gen. Thomas C. Casaday, CAP |
| 1979 – 1982 | Brig. Gen. Johnnie Boyd, CAP |
| 1982 – 1984 | Brig. Gen. Howard L. Brookfield, CAP |
| 1984 – 1986 | Brig. Gen. William B. Cass, CAP |
| 1986 – 1990 | Maj. Gen. Eugene E. Harwell, CAP |
| 1990 – 1993 | Brig. Gen. Warren J. Barry, CAP |
| 1993 – 1996 | Brig. Gen. Richard L. Anderson, CAP |
| 1996 – 1998 | Brig. Gen. Paul M. Bergman, CAP |
| 1998 – 2001 | Brig. Gen. James C. Bobick, CAP |
| 2001 – 2004 | Maj. Gen. Richard L. Bowling, CAP |
| 2004 – 2005 | Maj. Gen. Dwight H. Wheless, CAP |
| 2005 – present | Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda, CAP |

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|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1969 – 1972 | Brig. Gen. Richard N. Ellis, USAF |
| 1972 – 1975 | Brig. Gen. Leslie J. Westberg, USAF |
| 1975 – 1977 | Brig. Gen. Carl S. Miller, USAF |
| 1977 – 1980 | Brig. Gen. Paul E. Gardner, USAF |
| 1980 – 1981 | Brig. Gen. H. W. Miller, USAF |
| 1981 – 1984 | Brig. Gen. David L. Patton, USAF |
| 1984 – 1989 | Col. John T. Massingale Jr., USAF |
| 1989 – 1990 | Col. Clyde O. Westbrook Jr., USAF |
| 1990 – 1992 | Col. Joseph M. Nall, USAF |
| 1992 – 1995 | Col. Ronald T. Sampson, USAF |
| 1995 – 1998 | Col. Garland W. Padgett Jr., USAF |
| 1998 – 2001 | Col. Dennis B. Parkhurst, USAF |
| 2001 – 2002 | Col. Albert A. Allenback, USAF |
| 2002 – 2005 | Col. George C. Vogt, USAF |
| 2005 – present | Col. Russell Hodgkins, USA |

This artwork illustrates highlights from the life of Brig. Gen. Lyle Castle, who served as chairman of the CAP National Board from 1965-'68.

CAP-U.S. Air Force Commanders

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| 1941 – 1942 | Maj. Gen. John F. Curry, USAF |
| 1942 – 1947 | Brig. Gen. Earle L. Johnson, USAF |
| 1947 | Brig. Gen. Frederick H. Smith Jr., USAF |
| 1947 – 1955 | Maj. Gen. Lucas V. Beau, USAF |
| 1956 – 1959 | Maj. Gen. Walter R. Agee, USAF |
| 1959 – 1961 | Brig. Gen. Stephen D. McElroy, USAF |
| 1961 – 1964 | Col. Paul C. Ashworth, USAF |
| 1964 – 1967 | Col. Joe L. Mason, USAF |
| 1967 – 1968 | Brig. Gen. William W. Wilcox, USAF |
| 1968 – 1969 | Maj. Gen. Walter B. Putnam, USAF |

